

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 283
ANSWERED ON 21.07.2023

RESUMPTION OF TRAINS STOPPED DURING COVID PANDEMIC

283 # SHRI SHAKTISINH GOHIL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of passenger trains whose services were stopped by the Railways in Gujarat during the Corona period; and
- (b) the number of such trains that have been resumed and by when Government intends to resume the services of the remaining trains?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) and (b) With a view to contain the spread of Covid-19 pandemic, Indian Railways had discontinued the operation of all regular passenger carrying trains with effect from 23rd March, 2020 and only special train services were being operated. 270 Mail/Express trains and 258 passenger trains operated by Western Railway, primarily serving the stations located in the State of Gujarat, had been discontinued. Meanwhile, Indian Railways have undertaken rationalization of the time table in a scientific manner with the assistance of IIT-Bombay. The exercise has been undertaken, *inter alia*, to provide for better passenger safety by creating maintenance corridor blocks, minimizing conflicts in existing time table, which, *inter-alia* involved conversion of Passenger services into Mail/Express services. Since November-2021, Mail/express train services are being operated as per rationalized timetable and regular numbers. At present, 308 Mail/Express trains and 191 passenger trains serving the stations located in the State of Gujarat are operational over Western Railway system.
